

The Legends School of Education

HISTORY

CLASS : 9TH

Chapter 1 : French Revolution

Q1 : Describe the circumstances leading to the outbreak of revolutionary protest in France?

Ans : The circumstances leading to outbreak of revolutionary protest in France were:

Social Inequality : French society in eighteenth century was divided into three estates namely, The clergy, The nobility and the third estate. The first two estates enjoyed certain privileges by birth, they were exempt from paying taxes. The third estate comprised of business merchants, peasants and artisans, labours, all of them had to pay taxes to the state.

Political Causes : Long years of wars had drained the financial resources of France. France had a debt of more than two billion livres. To meet its regular expenses, such as the cost of maintaining an army, the court, running government offices or universities, the state was forced to increase taxes which angered the people.

Economic Problems : The population of France also increased from 23 million in 1715 to 28 million in 1789, food grains were in great demand and the price of bread shot wages of common people did not keep pace with rising prices. This led to subsistence crisis.

Immediate Cause : On 5th May 1789, Louis XVI called together an assembly of Estates General to pass proposals for new taxes. People of third estate protested against this proposal but as each estate had one vote, the king rejected this appeal. They walked out of the assembly.

Q2 : Which groups of French Revolution society benefited from the revolution? Which groups were forced to relinquish power? Which sections of the society would have been disappointed with the outcome of the revolution.

Ans : The richer members of the third estate whom were mostly benefitted from the French revolution. The clergy and the nobility estate were forced to relinquish (surrender) their power. The poor class of third estate and women would have been disappointed with the outcome of the revolution as the promise of equality discussed during the revolution was not given, also the poorer classes had no right to vote.

Q3 : Describe the legacy of the French Revolution for the peoples of the world during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Ans : The legacy of the French Revolution for the peoples of the world during the 19th & 20th centuries were as follows:

- 1) Ideas of equality and democratic spirit from France to other European countries
feudalism was abolished.
- 2) Colonial people reworked the idea of freedom from the bondage into their movements to create sovereign nation state.
- 3) It was the first movement to adopt the idea of liberty, equality and fraternity.
- 4) The declaration of the rights of man and citizen gave rights such as right to life, freedom of speech, equality before law.

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- 5) Women were many rights. They could not be forced against their will. Divorce was made legal, schooling was made compulsory.

Q4 : Draw up a list of democratic rights we enjoy today whose origins could be traced to the French Revolution?

Ans : We can trace the origin of following democratic rights we enjoy today to the French Revolution:

- 1) Right to equality before law.
- 2) Freedom of speech & expression.
- 3) Right to justice.
- 4) Inspiring the spirit of democracy.
- 5) Encouraging the spirit of Fraternity.

Q5 : Would you agree with the view that the message of universal rights was beset with contradictions? Explain.

Ans : The major contradiction in the message of universe rights as per the French Constitution of 1791 was the total ignorance of women. All rights were given to men. Apart from that the presence of huge number of people of passive citizens without voting right, was like not putting into practice what you preach. In other words, it can be said that although the declaration of universal rights was a good starting point but it left much to be desired.

Q6 : How would you explain the rise of Napoleon?

Ans : After Robespierre's rule came to an end, a directory was formed to avoid concentration of power in one individual. Members of the directory often fought among themselves leading to total chaos and political instability. This was a conducive situation and Napoleon Bonaparte took the reign of power as a military dictator.

Napoleon saw his role as a modernizer of Europe. He introduced many laws such as the protection of private property and a uniform system of weights and measures provided by the decimal system.

Chapter 2 : Socialism in Europe & the Russian Revolution

Q1 : What were the social, economic and political conditions in Russia before 1905?

Ans : The social, economical and political conditions in Russia before 1905 were very backward. Social inequality was very prominent among the working class. Workers were divided on basis of their occupation. Workers whose job needed skill and training considered themselves on a higher plane, than the untrained workers. Workers had strong links with the village they came from and this also caused the social division among the workers.

Economically Russia was going through a difficult period. The population was doubled and the economic conditions turned from bad to worse. The government introduced new programs of industrialization which created employment, this industrialization did not helped the workers who were exploited and their living conditions only worsened. As compared to other European nations Russian was politically backward during 1905. All political parties were

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illegal before 1914. The Russian peasants formed Socialist Revolutionary party in 1900 but as they were not a united group, they were not considered to be a part of socialist movement.

Q2 : In what ways was the working population in Russia different from other countries in Europe before 1917?

Ans : The following points highlights the difference:

- a) Workers were divided into social group women made 31% of factory labour, but they were paid less wages than men.
- b) Workers were divided in social groups. They were divided by skill. Division among workers were visible in their dressing manners too.
- c) Industry, was the private property of industrialists. Govt. used to inspection factories to ensure minimum wages and limited working hours, but rulers were not prevented by factory inspectors. They made 15 hours working in craft unit and 10-12 hours in factory.

Q3 : Why did the Tsarist autocracy collapse in 1917?

Ans : 1. The revolutionary movement in Russia had been growing when the 1905 revolution broke out. A mass of peaceful worker with their wives and children was fired at St. Petersburg. The news of killing provoked the unprecedented disturbance throughout Russia and became the beginning of revolution that came in 1917.

2. The Tsar took Russia into the First World War which proved fatal and brought about break down of Russian autocracy.

3. On 12th March, 1917 St. Petersburg fell into the hands of the revolutionaries and soon revolutionaries controlled Moscow. Tsar gave up his throne and first provisional Govt. was formed.

Q4 : Make two lists; one with the main events and the effect of February revolution and other with the main eve and effects of October revolution. Write a paragraph on who has involved in each, who were the leaders and what the impact of each was on soviet history.

Ans : **February Revolution – Effects and Events:**

- a) In February 1917, there was the shortage of food which was deeply felt by the workers.
- b) On 22nd February, a lock out took place at a factory on the right bank of River Neva.
- c) On 23rd February, workers in factories called a strike in sympathy of factory workers of River Neva.
- d) Woman also led the way to strikes at this came to be called the international women's day.

October Revolution – Effects and Events:

- a) The conflict between the Bolsheviks and provisional government feared lenin that provisional Govt. would setup dictatorship.
- b) In September 1917 Lenin start making discussions for an uprising against the govt. Bolshevik army, soviet and factories were brought together.

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- c) On October 16, A military revolutionary committee was appointed by a soviet under LeonTrit Skito organize seizure. The date of event was kept a secret.
- d) In the followed years the Bolsheviks became the only party to participate in election to the All Russian Congress of Soviet which became the parliament of the country.

Q5 : What were the main changes brought about by the Bolsheviks immediately after the October Revolution?

Ans : Following changes were brought about by the Bolsheviks immediately after the October Revolution:

- a) A declaration of the rights of peoples was issued conferring the right of self determination upon all nationalities.
- b) A new govt. called the council of people's commissioners, headed by lenin was formed.
- c) Following the decree on land, the estates of the landlords, the church and the Tsar were confiscated and transferred to peasants societies to be allotted to their families to be cultivated without hired labour.

Q6 : Write few lines to show what you know about:

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| 1. Kulaks | 2. The Duma |
| 3. Women workers between 1900 and 1930 | 4. Stalin's collectivization Program. |

1. Kulaks : It was the name for well to the farmers of Russia. During the Stalin's reign to develop modern farms and run them along industrial lines, elimination of Kulaks was considered necessary.

2. The Duma : It was an elected consultative parliament, which creation was allowed by Tsar during 1905 revolution in Russia.

3. Women workers between 1900 and 1930 : Due to industrialization, many women began to work in factories. Many women leaders on 22nd February 1917, organize strikes in factories. They helped male workers in both revolutions, The February and October revolution.

4. Stalin's collectivization Program : The period of the early planned economy was linked to the disasters of the collectivization of agriculture. From 1929, the communist party of the soviet union forced all peasants to cultivate in collective forms (kolkhoz). Peasants worked on the land and the profit was shared.